

Approved For Release 2002/07/01 : CIA-RDP78-06207A000100040001-2

Exec. Reg # 72-754/5

29 Dec 1972

Vice Admiral V. P. de Poix, USN  
Director  
Defense Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Admiral de Poix:

In February 1972, the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) informed the United States Intelligence Board that they would be unable to continue the Information Science Center (ISC) program at the Defense Intelligence School beyond 30 June 1972 because of Department of Defense budgetary and personnel cuts, but that space for classrooms and faculty offices could be provided if the intelligence community wished to give full support to the ISC concept. In March 1972, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) responded that it wished to assume responsibility for a program in FY 1973 pending determination of the longer range requirements for information science training and a permanent solution to this problem. Shortly thereafter an agreement was reached for the continued use of buildings T-4 and T-42 at the Defense Intelligence School. This included access to the DIAGL System via remote terminals. CIA assigned a Project Manager, two Training Officers, and a Secretary to the staff, and assumed contract responsibility for an unclassified General Electric computer system used in this training. The National Security Agency (NSA) detailed a Training Officer to this interim staff. The Defense Intelligence School provided liberal guest speaker support to the program.

With these resources a modest interagency information science training program offering courses of common utility was resumed in September 1972. The response to the courses announced thus far have been dramatic: over 450 individual applications have been received from throughout the intelligence community for the first three course offerings. More than 100 of these applications were from DIA employees. We anticipate continued heavy enrollments throughout the trial period. Also, a recent study of our own training requirements reveals a need to train a minimum of 127 CIA students in FY 1974 in information science subjects.

It is our view that these responses reflect a growing awareness in all agencies of the need to train a wide range of intelligence officers in information science subjects and in the relationships of those methods to the technology available to us in our several agencies. These responses are not surprising when we consider the impact that computer based systems are having on our intelligence collection, production, dissemination, and support activities, and when we further consider the interest that we all share in modernizing the methods employed in these tasks.

Therefore, we propose that:

- a. a joint intelligence community information science training program be reestablished on an official basis in an expanded Information Science Training Center.
- b. existing facilities in Building T-4 be used for this purpose including continued access to the DIAOL System via existing remote terminals.
- c. DIA detail two qualified Training Officers possessing systems training and intelligence experience and one Secretary/Typist to the joint staff on a non-reimbursable basis.

If this proposal is acceptable CIA is prepared to:

- a. detail a senior Project Manager, three experienced Training Officers, and one Training Assistant/Secretary to the joint staff.
- b. retain contract and financial responsibility for a back-up commercial computer system.
- c. budget for the cost of books, manuals, other peculiar supplies, and for any additional audio-visual equipment required for the courses.

Additionally, we would ask NSA to expand its staff commitment to the Center by providing two instructors and one Clerk/Typist. It is our estimate that this augmented staff could provide approximately fifty weeks of instruction in interagency courses and in segments of information science training in internal courses in CIA, DIA and NSA.

The alternative to this proposed course of action would involve costly duplication of staff and facilities in each agency and, perhaps, a lowering of the quality training that we can achieve if we each detail some of our best training talent to a joint effort in this important area.

We will welcome your views on these proposals.

Sincerely,

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Vernon A. Walters  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Acting Director

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